

**Village of Holmen  
Board Proceedings  
May 14, 2026**

President Barlow called the Holmen Village Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm on May 14, 2026, at the Holmen Village Hall.

Board members present: Patrick Barlow, Sam Kube, Doug Jorstad, Rich Anderson, Dawn Kulcinski and Travis Elam. Micah Wyss was excused. Also present were Jody & Chad Wickler, Corbin Wait, Eric Sutterlin, Morgan Hendrickson, Daryl Holley, Scott Ryan, Andy Parrish, Keith & Charlene Purnell, Chad Updike, Caden Hemlock, Joe Kovacevich, Joe Haas, Administrator Heinig, Director of Operations & Finance/Clerk/Treasurer Hornberg, Chief Collins, Captain Spears, Public Works Director/Engineer Dahl, Park & Recreation Director Geary and Attorney Weber.

**Public Comment**

Eric Sutterlin, 317 Moreland Circle, St. Paul, MN, spoke regarding his concerns about the operational use and potential exploitation of Flock camera systems. He stated that he believes the systems are unconstitutional. His written statement is included as submitted, as Addendum A to these minutes.

Andy Parrish, W19877 Ardes Ln, Galesville, WI, stated his belief that the Village Flock cameras provide a live feed and questioned if the security camera in Village Hall was a Flock Camera, suggesting that the camera in the Village Board room was live. He further asserted that the Flock information collected is being shared with agencies including the NSA, Secret Service, Border Patrol, ICE, and the Department of Homeland Security, and claimed this is occurring at taxpayer expense.

Corbin Wait, 1606 Prairie Place, Holmen, expressed his opposition to Flock Cameras.

Scott Ryan, 311 S. Main Street, Holmen, expressed his opinion regarding concerns about Flock cameras, including potential dangers and the possibility of misuse or abuse of the system.

Caden Hemlock, 970 Linden Drive, Holmen stated the opinion that Flock cameras constitute mass surveillance.

Morgan Hendrickson, 603 Alpine Ln, stated her opinion that Flock cameras are alarming and scary, particularly in relation to women and children.

**Minutes**

Rich Anderson/Dawn Kulcinski motioned to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2026 Board Meeting and April 21, 2026 Special Board Meeting as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

**Law Enforcement Committee**

President Barlow asked that the Flock Safety camera agenda item be moved up for immediate review.

Travis Elam/Doug Jorstad motioned to move possible action on Flock Safety cameras to review immediately. The motion carried 6-0.

President Barlow requested a Flock camera contract update from Chief Shane Collins. Chief Collins stated that the item under consideration is for eight Flock Safety Cameras at a cost of \$3,000.00 per camera, all of which are ALPR (Automatic License Plate Recognition) cameras. He clarified that there is no live activation on any of the cameras. He explained that the cameras capture license plate information and vehicle descriptions only. Chief Collins added that the current contract is up for renewal this year, with a total renewal cost of \$24,000.00.

President Barlow inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board regarding the Flock Safety Camera contract.

Trustee Elam stated that he fully supports the Holmen Police Department. He noted that he worked with the Holmen Police Reserve Unit for four years and said he has witnessed nothing but phenomenal work from the department. Elam expressed disappointment over questions regarding the department's integrity and stated that he is proud of every officer serving the Village of Holmen. He further commented that Holmen is a special community that supported him throughout his youth. Elam expressed his concern about individuals who do not live in the Village coming in and questioning the integrity of the police department, stating that it upsets him greatly. He said he is grateful that the police department continues protecting the residents of Holmen, including his children and family. Elam concluded by stating that he is in full support of the Flock Safety Cameras and fully supports the Holmen Police Department.

Chief Collins remarked that Flock does have the capability to provide live feed cameras, however, the Village of Holmen does not have this option. The additional cost for the live feed would be \$500.00 per camera. Chief Collins also confirmed that the current system does not have facial recognition or other person-specific recognition capabilities. He noted that searches are limited solely to vehicle-related information.

In response to continuous interruptions from the audience, President Barlow reiterated that the meeting had moved into Board discussion of the action item and that no additional public comment would be permitted at that time. He directed any further follow-up questions to the Holmen Police Department. President Barlow then asked Chief Collins to review the information currently captured by the existing Flock Camera system.

Chief Collins stated that the Flock Camera system takes a snapshot of the following: license plate number, vehicle color, vehicle body, vehicle make along with five vehicle identifiers such as top rack, back rack, bumper sticker, window sticker or a toolbox.

President Barlow asked Collins to walk the Board through the procedures and processes used when Flock Camera information is needed. Collins reviewed a recent incident at a local business in which criminal activity was captured on an external security camera. He explained how the Flock Camera system was utilized to help identify and apprehend the suspect. Collins further stated that the camera system has been used in numerous cases to assist law enforcement in removing criminals from the streets, as well as aiding in the location of missing persons.

Trustee Elam commented that he encourages the public not to get sucked into the sensationalism surrounding this topic and urged residents to educate themselves on this matter. He stated that he has worked as a senior software engineer for many years and is familiar with the policies and regulations that guard this type of data, noting that he works with such regulations on a daily basis. Elam reiterated the importance of researching and understanding the safeguards and regulations protecting the data being discussed and cautioned the public against relying solely on information shared through social media posts.

President Barlow asked Chief Collins to provide additional information regarding the security of the data collected through the Flock Camera system. Chief Collins explained that the data is stored on a secure government network, where access requires authorized credentials and a specific reason for obtaining the information. He further stated that any information not associated with an incident is automatically deleted after thirty-days.

Travis Elam/Rich Anderson motioned to approve the renewal of the Flock Safety camera contracted as presented in the amount of \$24,000.00. The motion carried 6-0.

**Special Presentation**

Joe Haas from Hawkins Ash CPAs presented the 2025 audit, including explaining the purpose and use of an annual audit and offered to answer questions. The Board thanked Mr. Haas for his presentation and the Village's Administrative team for our outstanding financial position.

**Planning Commission**

Rich Anderson/Doug Jorstad motioned to approve Rezoning Petition for Petitioner Joseph Roraff, JDT Development LLC, seeking a Change of Zoning from (A) Agriculture District to (B-2) General Business District on 1.31 acres immediately South of Mc Donald's on Gaarder Road (CSM in process). The motion carried 6-0.

**Park, Recreation and Library Committee**

Sam Kube/Dawn Kulcinski motion to approve the conceptual site plan for renovation at the Holmen Area Aquatic Center from Parkitecture & Planning in the amount of \$14,120.00. The motion carried 6-0.

**Law Enforcement**

Chief Collins mentioned that new hire Tyler Blair will begin his position as the School Police Liaison officer at the end of May.

Collins also reminded the group that the benefit for Officer Joe Hickey will be held this Sunday at Features Fieldhouse in West Salem.

**Public Works Committee**

Rich Anderson/Travis Elam motioned to approve the contract with Miller Earthworks for the demolition of the building located at 406 S. Main Street in the amount of \$34,440.48. The motion carried 6-0.

Rich Anderson/Travis Elam motioned to approve the purchase of an Air Compressor from Atlas Copco in the amount of \$21,000.00 with installation costs of \$3,200.00 with Kish & Sons Electric. The motion carried 6-0.

**Finance and Personnel Committee**

Doug Jorstad/Sam Kube motioned to approve payment of the claims as presented for the amount of \$3,014,106.75. The motion carried 6-0.

Doug Jorstad/Dawn Kulcinski motioned to approve Temporary Amendment to Liquor Premises for Specific Events as follows: Features 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party to be held August 8, 2026; Alyson Haugen Breast Cancer Benefit to be held on August 8, 2026; 95.7 The Rock – Motorcycle Giveaway to be held on September 12, 2026; and Bags for Brian – Colon Cancer Benefit to be held on October 3, 2026, all at Features Sports Bar & Grill, 504 Holmen Drive North. The motion carried 6-0.

**Shared Ride Committee**

Trustee Kube reported that the City of Onalaska staff thoughtfully considered the comments and concerns submitted regarding the draft RFP for the Shared Ride Program. He stated that staff will incorporate revisions and present the updated draft for review at next week's meeting.

### **Municipal Court Update**

Informational items only.

### **Fire Board Report**

Trustee Elam reported that department call volumes continue to increase and that both interior and exterior building and site issues remain ongoing concerns for the department. President Barlow reviewed unsuccessful efforts to secure state funding, as well as the lack of cooperation from the Town of Holland regarding progress on plans for a new facility. Barlow also confirmed with Administrator Heinig that the Village of Holmen is prepared to move forward with providing financial support for its share of the fire building investment. The board further discussed ways to encourage the Town of Holland to move forward with its portion of the investment in the proposed new facility which is necessary for the department's future needs.

### **Bluffland Coalition Report**

Meeting will be held next week.

### **County Supervisor's Report**

County Supervisor Kovacevich updated the Board on the development of a County Resolution to establish an ad hoc committee regarding data centers. He explained that the committee would consist of five County Board Supervisors along with one representative from each municipality. Kovacevich stated that the purpose of the committee is to help educate the public on issues related to data centers. He emphasized that the committee would not have the authority to change local ordinances, but instead would serve in an advisory capacity by making recommendations. Trustee Elam commented that he believes the committee is a good idea, noting that there is a significant amount of misinformation surrounding data centers. He also stated that data centers could provide benefits to the community, including improved access to high-speed internet. Elam added that he looks forward to receiving updates from the committee.

### **President's Report**

President Barlow remarked that he attended the Holmen Area Foundation breakfast, where long-time resident Kevin Baird received a servant leadership award. He also shared that he had the opportunity to attend the opening of the new U.W. La Crosse Science Building, both in his role as a university employee and as a local representative. He stated that the addition of the new facility is beneficial not only for the university, but also for the region as a whole.

### **Other Items before the Board**

Chief Collins thanked the Board for their continued support of the Flock Safety Camera system, noting that it is an effective tool for public safety. He also assured the Board that the system is carefully monitored to ensure it is used appropriately and that there is no abuse of access or data.

Attorney Weber complimented Chief Collins and Captain Spears for their handling of the meeting and the professionalism they displayed. He commended all involved for their efforts during the evening's proceedings.

Trustee Elam stated that Holmen has exceptional staff and he will not allow anyone to undermine the staff or the Board. He remarked that the administrative staff is the best in the area and said he considers it a privilege to live in the community.

Trustee Anderson echoed Trustee Elam's statement.

The Village Board once again thanked the Administrative team for the outstanding audit and financial position of the Village.

**Closed Session**

At 8:26 pm, Doug Jorstad/Sam Kube motioned to convene into closed session per Wisconsin State Statute:

*Authority: §19.85(1) (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.*

*Purpose: Discussion of Property Condemnation*

The motion carried 6-0.

At 8:54 pm, Dawn Kulcinski/Rich Anderson motioned to reconvene into open session per Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(2). The motion carried 6-0.

No action items were needed after closed session.

Travis Elam/Sam Kube motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. The motion carried 6-0.

Angela A. Hornberg  
Director of Operations & Finance/Clerk/Treasurer

Dear Holmen Trustees,

Here is the speech I plan on presenting at tomorrow's Board meeting. Part of why I'm sending it to you now is so you have it in case I can't speak fast enough and run out of time. Based on my experiences to-date, I'm confident that my concerns are shared with the vast majority of citizens that are fully aware of the dangers and issues described in my speech. I'm confident that the majority of citizens that still support use of ALPRs in Holmen are unaware of these dangers and issues.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Eric Sutterlin  
Founder and Leader, Sandland Tunnels  
[www.tunnelcity.com](http://www.tunnelcity.com)

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Regarding the Dangers of Automated License Plate Readers:

My name is Eric Sutterlin. I'm a Minnesota resident but I spent a lot of my time in western Wisconsin at my hobby project site. I drove three extra hours to speak here tonight. I'm reading from a script I wrote because I'm autistic. It's challenging for me to speak in public.

On tonight's Board agenda is a possible action to approve Flock Safety cameras. These cameras are officially known as ALPRs. Automated license plate readers. Because Holmen already has Flock ALPRs, I believe this is referring to a contract renewal. I'm here to provide some information on both Flock Safety as a company and ALPRs in general that I'm confident Holmen will want to consider before voting.

Flock Safety is a startup financed by 8 billion dollars largely from venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz. Flock was founded in 2017. Its founder is described by Forbes Magazine as envisioning a "benevolent panopticon" in the words of Forbes Magazine that watches everyone all the time so there will be no crime. One recent credible video says Flock had customers signing contracts before they even had cameras to provide their customers with. In recent years, the number of Flock ALPRs has ballooned at lightning speed to approximately 92,000 nationwide. However, reality is not what Flock Safety has led police departments all across the country to believe. There are countless ethical and operational issues with Flock that are well-documented online. The issues fall into two basic categories: Flock's exploitative business practices, and technical issues caused by Flock expanding their business far faster than their staff can handle.

An example of the latter can be found in my own community, West St. Paul, Minnesota. One of our Flock cameras was installed at the wrong intersection. As far as I can tell, it's because Flock was sloppy when they looked at the map and did not realize one street jogged over for a block. Based on my discussion with our police chief, it's fairly evident that he was unaware this camera was at the wrong intersection for months, meaning it's illegal. Minnesota has an ALPR law that requires all camera locations to be reported to the state. Since the wrong intersection is DOT property, Flock Safety took out a DOT permit and put my police chief's name on it and a Flock representative's e-mail. All evidence supports the theory that my police chief had no idea that Flock had taken out a permit on his behalf. In this case, no harm was done, but Flock could easily make a mistake that adversely affects someone in Holmen.

Examples of exploitative business practices include Flock's Terms of Service constantly changing so customers like the Holmen Police Department have no idea what they legally signed up for. Another example is Flock rest assures its law enforcement customers that the customer owns their data. Data refers to the dates and times that all vehicles are seen driving past all of a village's cameras. But it's documented that Flock owns the raw

footage. Flock can turn the raw footage into their own data the same way they turn it into customer data. Therefore, Flock owns everything. Every single vehicle passing every single one of Flock's 92,000 cameras nationwide including Holmen's approximately ten – quite a large number for a village the size of Holmen – is documented with all dates and times. Although data is supposed to be deleted after 30 days, the researcher Benn Jordan found footage on his Flock ALPR – the exact same camera that Holmen uses – from the factory where it was built. Therefore, we have no way of knowing what data Flock has forever documented.

If Holmen has opted into Flock's national LPR network, which they probably have, then all officers from all 5000 or so police departments that have opted in have access to the movements and daily habits of every single vehicle that drives through Holmen. Tens of thousands of officers all over the country can find out everywhere any Holmen resident has driven for the entire past month in an instant. Flock even offers the option of seeing a vehicle's travels on a map. Most reasonable people would agree that this is unconstitutional because it violates the Fourth Amendment. Incidents of police misconduct involving ALPR abuse are sprouting up all over the country as these cameras spread. In Wisconsin, two recent incidents in Milwaukee, one in Menasha, and one in Kenosha County. I personally was victimized by ALPR abuse perpetrated by an officer in another state. I did not commit a crime. No one ever disclosed to me or my attorney why my car had been flagged. This came out of nowhere. Although Flock Safety was not involved in my incident, it resulted in being forced to cancel plans and leave my car at home for three weeks while I worked with an attorney to get things sorted out.

I have tremendous respect for police officers who are always ethical, reasonable, and respectful. But Wisconsin does not have an ALPR law so there's nothing in the process to stop those who aren't from using Flock cameras to commit misconduct. Most commonly, to stalk their exes. And Minnesota has an ALPR law but it does not check for officer misconduct.

Even if Holmen decides to go with a different ALPR vendor such as Axon, a Massachusetts court has cautioned that a network of ALPRs may violate the Fourth Amendment. Everything I've read leads to the conclusion that this is quickly becoming an increasingly contentious issue as the public becomes aware to the point where Holmen may be forced by its citizens to end its contract early, losing money.

The vast majority of people I've spoken to who are aware of the problem are strongly against ALPR use. The vast majority of posts I see on social media about ALPRs are strongly against them. I hardly hear of anyone promoting them outside of law enforcement. Therefore, if Holmen votes to renew its contract, Holmen is not a democracy. Organized efforts to educate the public on the dangers of ALPRs are in formation. It's only a matter of time.

It is true that ALPRs assist law enforcement in solving crimes. I recall a study that shows they raise the arrest rate for stolen vehicles by two to three times. That's great! But crime rate is not the same thing as the rate of solving crimes that have already occurred. Other studies indicate that there's no indication ALPRs have any effect on crime rate.

Police departments across the nation are being exploited for profit by Flock Safety, a company described as a "bad actor" by a Dane County supervisor in a recent article. As a result, the reputations of police departments across the country are taking a hit.

If you don't believe something I've said, please either look it up or reach out and ask me to provide a source. I have carefully checked my facts.

Ben Franklin's famous quote reads "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." Approving ALPRs is literally giving up liberty for safety. If you renew your contract, Ben Franklin will roll over in his grave once again. Using ALPRs is an incredibly unamerican thing to do.

Please vote against Holmen's contract renewal with Flock Safety. Please do not consider another vendor for these

undemocratic and likely unconstitutional cameras. I have confidence that voting against renewal represents the wishes of the vast majority of Holmen residents once they are reasonably informed of the dangers of ALPRs and the exploitative business practices of Flock Safety. Not to mention, you can spend that money on something that helps your residents instead.

Thank you for your time.